

Serial No. 10/824,500

Attorney Docket No. 01-619

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) ~~An in-vehicle~~ A navigation device provided in for a vehicle, comprising:

a storing unit configured for storing personal position information pertinent to a user of the vehicle, for navigating the vehicle including personal information of a user of the vehicle;

a navigation privacy mode activating unit configured for optionally activating a navigation privacy mode in the navigation device when a predetermined condition is satisfied;

a commanding unit configured for generating a command of one of:

(i) a permitting command for ~~permitting a use of~~ a given function of the ~~in-vehicle navigation device, the given function using the stored personal position information and allowing the stored personal position information to be disclosed;~~ and

(ii) an unpermitting command for ~~unpermitting the use of the given function to thereby protect the stored personal position information from being disclosed~~ when the navigation privacy mode is activated, although the navigation device can remain unchanged in any function other than a function needing a use of the stored personal position information,

~~wherein the use of the given function accesses the personal information stored in the storing unit, the personal information to be used for navigating the vehicle;~~

a controlling unit configured for executing one of enabling and disabling the use of the given function; and

an authenticating unit configured for executing an authentication process when the permitting command is generated by the commanding unit while the given function is being disabled,

wherein, when the authentication process is successfully executed by the authenticating unit, the controlling unit executes enabling ~~the use of the given function.~~

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2. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1,
wherein the given function includes a function for setting, a function for changing setting,
and a function for browsing setting contents, with respect to the personal position information.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1,
wherein the authenticating unit includes:
an inputting unit configured for inputting individual information unique to ~~the~~
user of the vehicle; and
a registry storing unit configured for storing registry information registered by the
user, and

wherein the authenticating unit successfully executes the authentication process when a
given relationship between the individual information and the registry information is fulfilled.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1, further comprising:
an execution results storage unit configured for storing an execution result of the
controlling unit regardless of whether a power supplied to the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device is
stopped,

wherein, when the power is stopped, the controlling unit retains in the execution-result
storage unit one of enabling and disabling ~~the use of~~ the given function that is executed by the
controlling unit just before the power is stopped.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1,

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wherein, when a spare key is inserted to a key cylinder of the vehicle, the predetermined condition is satisfied ~~and the privacy mode is activated~~ and the commanding unit generates the unpermitting command for unpermitting ~~the use of the~~ given function.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1, further comprising:
a map data storing unit configured for storing map data including position information relating to positions of facilities on a map; and
a position detector configured for detecting a current position,
wherein, when a current position detected by the position detector is a position of a given facility, the predetermined condition is satisfied ~~and the privacy mode is activated~~ and the commanding unit generates the unpermitting command for unpermitting ~~of the use of the~~ given function.

7. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1,
wherein, when the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device is able to be powered without inserting a key to a key cylinder of the vehicle, the commanding unit generates the unpermitting command for unpermitting ~~the use of the~~ given function while the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device is powered without inserting the key to the key cylinder.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1, further comprising:
a position detector configured for detecting a current position; and
a transmitter configured for transmitting the current position detected by the position detector to an outside when disabling ~~the use of the~~ given function is executed by the controlling unit.

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9. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1,
wherein the unpermitting ~~the use of the~~ given function using the stored personal position
information in the navigation device allows enabling the vehicle to ~~travel~~remain unchanged in
any function and movement other than the function needing a use of the stored personal position
information.

10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently amended) An unauthorized-use restraining method for an ~~in-vehicle~~ea
navigation device provided in for a vehicle, comprising steps of:

generating a command for activating a navigation privacy mode when a predetermined
condition is satisfied;

disabling ~~a use of~~ a given function of the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device when the command
is generated, wherein ~~the use of the~~ given function accesses personal position information, which
is ~~related-pertinent~~ to a user of the vehicle and stored in a storing unit, the personal position
information to be used for navigating ~~the vehicle, to thereby protect the stored personal position~~
information from being disclosed when the navigation privacy mode is activated although the
navigation device can remain unchanged in any function other than a function needing a use of
the stored personal position information;

executing an authentication process based on a command of permitting ~~the use of the~~
given function while the given function is being disabled; and

enabling ~~the use of the~~ given function when the authentication process is successfully
executed.

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12. (Currently amended) The unauthorized-use restraining method of Claim 11, wherein the ~~unpermitting the use of the~~ given function includes enabling the vehicle to travel.

13. (Currently amended) A vehicular control device for controlling ~~an in-vehicle~~ navigation device provided in for a vehicle, comprising:
a navigation privacy mode activating unit configured for optionally activating a navigation privacy mode in the navigation device when a predetermined condition is satisfied;
a determining unit configured for determining one of:

(i) permitting a use of a given function of the in-vehicle navigation device, the given function using stored personal position information and allowing the stored personal position information to be disclosed, and

(ii) unpermitting the use of the given function to thereby protect the stored personal position information from being disclosed when the navigation privacy mode is activated, although the navigation device can remain unchanged in any function other than a function needing a use of the stored personal position information,

wherein the given function is not required for traveling of the vehicle, ~~wherein the use of the given function accesses personal information related to a user of the vehicle; and~~

a controlling unit configured for:

causing, when the determining unit determines unpermitting the use of the given function, a prohibition state where ~~the use of the~~ given function is prohibited, and

displaying, during the prohibition state, information indicating that the prohibition state is active,

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wherein the traveling of the vehicle is permitted in the prohibition state, and
wherein the prohibition state caused by the controlling unit is continued until the
prohibition state is released.

14. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13,
wherein the given function that is not necessarily required for the traveling of the vehicle
includes a function enabling the vehicle to run, turn and stop.

15. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13, further comprising:
an authenticating unit configured for providing an authentication by successfully
executing an authentication process when permitting the use of the given function is determined
by the determining unit,

wherein, when the authentication is provided by the authenticating unit after the
authentication process is successfully executed, the prohibiting state is released.

16. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 15,
wherein the authenticating unit includes:
an inputting unit configured for inputting individual information unique to the
user of the vehicle; and
a registry storing unit configured for storing registry information registered by the
user, and

wherein the authentication process is successfully executed when it is determined that a
given relationship between the individual information and the registry information is fulfilled.

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17. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13,
wherein the given function includes a function for setting, a function for changing setting,
and a function for browsing setting contents of the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device, with respect to
the personal position information.

18. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13, further comprising:
an execution-result storage unit configured for storing an execution result of the
controlling unit regardless of whether a power supplied to the vehicular control device and the
~~in-vehicle~~navigation device is stopped,

wherein, even when the power is stopped, the prohibition state caused by the controlling
unit is retained in the execution-result storage unit at earliest till the power re-starts to be
supplied to the vehicular control device and the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device.

19. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13,
wherein, when a spare key is inserted to a key cylinder of the vehicle, the predetermined
condition is satisfied and the determining unit determines unpermitting ~~the use of the~~ given
function.

20. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13, further comprising:
a map data storing unit configured for storing map data including position information
relating to positions of facilities on a map; and
a position detector configured for detecting a current position,

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wherein, when a current position detected by the position detector is a position of a given facility, the predetermined condition is satisfied and ~~the privacy mode is activated~~ the determining unit determines unpermitting ~~the use of the~~ given function.

21. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13, wherein, when the vehicular control device and the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device are able to be powered without inserting a key to a key cylinder of the vehicle, the determining unit determines unpermitting ~~the use of the~~ given function while the vehicular control device and the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device are powered without inserting the key to the key cylinder.

22. (Currently amended) The vehicular control device of Claim 13, further comprising:
a position detector configured for detecting a current position; and
a transmitter configured for transmitting the current position detected by the position detector to an outside when the prohibition state is caused by the controlling unit.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently amended) An unauthorized-use restraining method for an ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device provided in a vehicle, comprising steps of:

generating a command for activating a navigation privacy mode when a predetermined condition is satisfied;

determining unpermitting ~~a use of~~ a given function of the ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device when the command is generated, the given function which is not required for traveling of the vehicle, wherein ~~the use of the~~ given function accesses personal position information related

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pertinent to a user of the vehicle, to thereby protect stored personal position information from being disclosed when the navigation privacy mode is activated;

causing, when unpermitting ~~the use of~~ the given function is determined, a prohibition state where ~~the use of~~ the given function is prohibited although ~~the traveling of the vehicle is permitted~~ can remain unchanged in any function and movement other than a function needing a use of the stored personal position information;

displaying, during the prohibition state, information indicating that the prohibition state is active; and

continuing the caused prohibition state until the prohibition state is released.

25. (Currently amended) The unauthorized-use restraining method of Claim 24, further comprising steps of:

determining permitting ~~the use of~~ the given function while ~~the use of~~ the given function is being prohibited;

executing an authentication process after permitting ~~the use of~~ the given function is determined;

providing an authentication after the authentication process is successfully executed; and releasing the prohibition state.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~ navigation device of Claim 1, wherein the personal position information includes at least information identifying a home of the user.

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28. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1, further comprising:
a navigation privacy mode switch for causing the navigation privacy mode activating unit to activate the navigation privacy mode,

wherein, when the navigation privacy mode switch is turned on, the predetermined condition is satisfied and the commanding unit generates the unpermitting command for unpermitting the use of the given function.

29. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 13, further comprising:

a navigation privacy mode switch for causing the navigation privacy mode activating unit to activate the navigation privacy mode,

wherein, when the navigation privacy mode switch is turned on, the predetermined condition is satisfied and the commanding unit generates the unpermitting command for unpermitting ~~the use of~~ the given function.

30. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 6, wherein the given facility includes a valet parking facility.

31. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 20, wherein the given facility includes a valet parking facility.

32. (Currently amended) The ~~in-vehicle~~navigation device of Claim 1, wherein the personal position information includes a memory point, which was personally stored in the storing unit by the user.